

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM J.
NOONAN'S RETIREMENT

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. AMODEI. Madam Speaker, on July 31st, an era will end. After a long and successful career in government and the gaming industry—the last 18 years of which he spent at Boyd Gaming—William J. Noonan will retire. Bill's long career—truly an American success story—has midwestern roots. A graduate of Missouri State before receiving his master's in public administration from the University Kansas, Bill spent years managing cities all across this country. From Springfield, Missouri, to small towns in Florida, and eventually to Las Vegas in the 1990s, Bill's positive energy and inspiring leadership guided cities large and small through some of the toughest and most exciting of economic times.

When Bill first landed in Las Vegas in 1990, it was a city of just under a million people. Gaming was not widely legalized throughout the country, but was about to be . . . and Bill sensed a boom coming. He worked with city leaders to prepare for what was to come and would soon take his skills into the private sector for a number of companies who needed to understand the key relationship that exists between the gaming industry and the communities in which they operate. Bill was exactly the right person for the job.

Since those humble beginnings of his youth, Bill has actually run a casino, dined with US presidents, overseen corporate philanthropies that have donated millions to communities and worthwhile causes, successfully recruited a professional football team to Las Vegas, and helped a city gather itself together after the horrific events of October 1 in his role as chairman of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce.

For his leadership to community and country, Bill's been recognized numerous times—by his industry as the Gaming Professional of the Year; by his alma mater as an outstanding alumnus; and by his state by serving on a number of prestigious boards. But if you know Bill, you know he really only cares about the appreciation of those with whom he works and the recognition of his lifelong love Sylvia and their beautiful family . . . with whom he now gets to spend a lot more time.

I wish my friend well. I thank him for his contributions, and I congratulate him on his retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE CITY OF ORAN

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Oran in Scott

County, MO on its 150th anniversary. The city of Oran, founded on July 16, 1869, was originally dubbed "St. Cloud" for the French town outside of Paris. The city was known to locals as "The Land of the Watermelon."

After some debate in the community and the opening of a new post office in 1882, the city officially decided on the name Oran. Captain Ward L. Smith, a retired sailor, selected the name Oran in honor of the second most important city in Algeria, which he had visited during his time in the Navy. Oran is a North African word for lion and is historically associated with the Berber legend of "the Mountain of Lions."

Traditions are a staple in Oran. Over the years, the city has hosted fall festivals, town celebrations, and picnics. Its most famous tradition is the Fourth of July picnic, which dates to 1908. Since its inception, the picnic has been celebrated annually except for a three-year break during World War II. The picnic features a multitude of activities for families and a firework show. The celebrations attract people from all walks of life each year.

Today, the city maintains its familiar farm town character, even with a growing population of over 1,300 residents. It is a charming community with a noteworthy history in the agricultural development of the Bootheel and of family values. It is my great pleasure to celebrate Oran today on the occasion of its sesquicentennial birthday before the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MIDLAND
SHERIFF GARY PAINTER

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Midland Sheriff Gary Painter, who was taken from us far too soon. Sheriff Gary Painter served Midland County with unconditional dedication for 34 years, and will be remembered by West Texans as a patriot of integrity and valor.

Sheriff Painter is a native Texan, growing up a farming community north of Lubbock where his family planted cotton and grains. After graduating from Plainview High School, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and dutifully served his nation through two tours of duty in Vietnam. His unrelenting dedication to our country earned him the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Service Ribbon with 6 devices, the Presidential Unit Commendation, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry. He was honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corps with the rank of Sergeant on August 31, 1970.

Upon his return to Texas, he began his career in law enforcement, working for the Texas Department of Public Safety, Culberson County's Sheriff's Office, Presidio County's Sheriff's

Office, and the Midland Police Department before joining the Midland County Sheriff's Office in 1982.

Throughout his nine terms as Sheriff of Midland County, Gary dedicated himself to improving the office. He utilized the latest technologies, helping law enforcement work faster, smarter, and better. He also notably organized the first multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force in West Texas, keeping our community safer.

Sheriff Painter has left behind a huge pair of boots to fill. His legacy as a courageous, selfless, public servant will be remembered and honored by all those he inspired over his decades of service. Gary has left behind his wife, Patsy, five children, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. God Bless his family and loved ones during this difficult time of loss. Suzanne and I will continue to pray as our community mourns.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBU-
TIONS OF JUDY SCHNEIDER ON
THE OCCASION OF HER RETIRE-
MENT

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished and enormously popular constituent, Judy Schneider, who is well-known and beloved to the Members of this body. After nearly 43 years of devoted service to the American people, she is retiring her post as a Specialist on the Congress at the Congressional Research Service (CRS).

Ms. Schneider began her career as a Congressional Staffer on the Temporary Select Committee to Study the Senate Committee System, the House Commission on Administrative Review, and the Senate Ethics Committee. Shortly thereafter she joined CRS as a Congressional Procedures Analyst and then became Specialist on the Congress. An admired and respected senior-level expert on the history, procedures, rules and culture of Congress, she employed her sharp intellect, prodigious curiosity and seasoned experience to the benefit of us all.

Over the course of her career, Ms. Schneider dedicated herself to the always urgent mission of congressional reform. She contributed to the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress in 1991, navigated the creation of the Department of Homeland Security after 9/11, and provided logistical support to Members and staff during five separate changes of party control in the House.

Never content keeping her vast procedural knowledge to herself, Ms. Schneider developed new orientation programs for incoming Senate Chairs, co-authored the Congressional Deskbook guide to Congress, and advised Members through hearings, markups, and committee assignment bids. She also co-founded a program to train thousands of congressional staffers and conducted professional

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